Message Text

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DRAFTED BY H:KBJENKINS:RMS
APPROVED BY H - K.B.JENKINS
EA - MR. ZURHELLEN (PHONE)
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EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OREP (DERWINSKI, EDWARD)

SUBJECT: CODEL DERWINSKI

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM KEMPTON JENKINS

1. CONGRESSMAN ED DERWINSKI CALLED ME IN TODAY TO DISCUSS HIS TRIP TO KOREA BEGINNING MAY 25. HE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE CONCERN THAT THE OPPOSITION ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO KOREA BASED ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM HAD BECOME ESPECIALLY MESSY, COMPOUNDED NOW BY GULF CORP'S PUBLIC CONFESSIONS OF ILLEGALLY PROVIDING CASH PAYMENTS TO PARK'S ASSOCIATES. MR. DERWINSKI POINTED OUT THAT HE IS WELL KNOWN IN KOREA AS A FRIEND OF THE REGIME; IN FACT, HE IS TRAVELING TO KOREA TO RECEIVE AN HONORARY DEGREE FROM A KOREAN UNIVERSITY. THEREFORE, HE SAID, PERHAPS HE CAN TALK TO PARK AND OTHER KOREAN LEADERS IN A WAY WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL TO OUR AMBASSADOR THERE.

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2. DERWINSKI'S PERSONAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT THE FALL OF SAIGON AND THREATS BY MARCOS AGAINST CONTINUATION OF OUR BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES HAVE INCREASED CONGRESSIONAL SENSIVITY TO OUR CONCERN FOR A STRONG, WELL-ARMED ROK. HE THEREFORE THINKS THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED FMS FOR KOREA ARE ENHANCED THIS YEAR. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE

RECOGNIZES THAT CONGRESSIONAL SENSITIVITY TO PARK'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD REMAINS A SERIOUS PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY WITHIN THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

3. HE WILL LOOK FORWARD TO A CHANCE TO TALK WITH YOU AND BE PREPARED TO PLAY ANY ROLE YOU THINK WOULD BE CONSTRUCTIVE. I SUGGEST YOU TAKE HIM UP ON THIS AND DO WHAT YOU CAN TO BETTER EQUIP HIM TO ARGUE OUR CASE WITHIN THE CONGRESS AS WELL AS EXPLOIT HIS WILLINGNESS TO BE A POINT MAN WITH ROK OFFICIALS. INGERSOLL

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